

Approved For Release 1999/09/17 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000

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Cops Action
Distasteful
But Vital

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• President Eisenhower said today that such activities as the 'U-2 plane flight over Russia' are a 'fortunate but vital necessity' in the world as it is today.

The President told his news conference that the Soviet

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Text of U-2 Statement, Page A-6

"Use of secrecy and concealment make merit intelligence gathering activity essential. "No one wants another Pearl Harbor," he declared.

He added that he would bring up at the Paris summit meeting next week his 1955 "open skies" proposal under which Russia and the United States would open their skies to flights by inspection planes.

Heads: Statement

The President's first public comment on the "war plan" which Soviet Premier Khrushchev claims was shot down by a U.S. missile May 1 was in the form of a press statement which he read to newspapermen.

In it, he expressed doubt that any plan was really shot down in the way the Russians claim it was.

"There is some reason to believe that the plan in question was not shot down at its inception," he said.

He mentioned this as an example of "many discrepancies" in Soviet allegations about the U-2 plane incident.

He explained that "we know" - and then corrected himself to "or we believe" - that pictures published by the Russians, purporting to show the crash of U-2, were not pictures of the plane that was downed.

Offers No Theory

He did not offer any theory
as to what did bring down
the plane.

The Soviet Army newspaper Proletar quoted the pilot of the plane, Francis G. Powers, as saying he believed an explosion in his jet engine, not a missile, caused his crash.

Mr. Eisenhower opened the news conference with his four-point statement on what he called "this U-2 incident," stressing the need for intelligence gathering activities and their secret nature. "Open

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He listed the real issues of the summit conference as "disarmament, search for solutions affecting Germany and Berlin and the whole range of East-West relations, including the reduction of armory and espionage."

The President told a questioner that the furore over the plane incident had not changed his plans for visiting Russia in June. He explained that his recent "casual" remark, "If I go to Russia," meant merely that one never can tell what is going to happen from one day to another. "But I expect to go," he said.

Mr. Eisenhower's statement over both the United States and Soviet Union "which from Moscow that Soviet would assure that no surprise might Khrushchev had raised attack was being prepared some question about whether against intent." The President should visit. The President insisted: however, that the United States is

10. The above statement not engaged in anything that amounted to a complete de-troude honestly be considered fence of the law the United protocative in sending unarmed States has been blocking infor planes over Russia.

Ridicule Gr. myko Charge
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by Soviet Foreign Minister

Defendant Initial Explanation.

There also was an implied defense of the way the State Department and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration first tried to explain away Premier Khrushchev's statements about floating the new plane by suggesting that it was a NASA weather observation plane which had strayed into Russia because the pilot might have become unconscious due to trouble with his oxygen equipment.

These activities have their own rules and methods of confinement, which seek to mislead and obscure—just as in the Soviet allegations there are many discrepancies," Mr. Eisenhower said.

He added that "the normal agencies of our Government are unaware of these specific activities or of the special efforts to conceal them."

Unaware of Mission

He appeared to be saying that the State Department and NASA know nothing about the real mission of the downed plane when they made their first public statements.

Mr. Eisenhower explained that the secret intelligence gathering activities are divorced from the regular, visible activities of Government which may clear of operation in involvement is spread detailed

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He emphasized that "the safety of the whole free world demands" that America's "dominant power" must never be placed in jeopardy "of a surprise attack that would seek to knock it out."

The president noted that no large-scale attack could be prepared secretly in most of the world. But he charged that the Soviet secrecy which is a major cause of international tension and uneasiness.

Mr. Eisenhower said America would prefer a different kind of world and that was why he made in 1955 and will renew next week his "open skies" proposal to permit aerial observa-

tion over both the United States and Soviet Union "which would assure that no surprise attack was being prepared against anyone."

The President insisted, however, that the United States is not engaged in anything that could honestly be considered provocative in sending unarmed planes over Russia.

Ridicule Gr. myko Charge

He was asked about a speech by Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko today charging the United States with deliberately engaging in provocative acts. He said such a charge is "absolutely ridiculous and they know it."

But he calmly assessed such Russian statements as in line with what they have been saying ever since World War II and therefore not indicating any decided change in the prospects for the summit meeting.

The President also shrugged off with a caustic comment Premier Khrushchev's unflattering comments about his plans to have Vice President Nixon substitute briefly for him at the summit meeting if urgent domestic affairs should call him for two or three days. "He has never asked me my opinion of some of his people," he said of Mr. Khrushchev.

Except for possible absence of not more than two or three days in case something came up demanding his attention at home, Mr. Eisenhower said he is prepared to stay at the summit conference as long as he can see any usefulness in it whatever. And if he should have to leave, he would be prepared to go right back, he added.

No. Blacks Over U. S.

Asked about reports of Russian reconnaissance plane flights over American territory, Mr. Eisenhower replied, all he wanted to say was that there

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As to whether protection
sitting-taking satellites might
cause worries about Soviet
activity in military preparation
ts even if the Russians turn down
his "open skies" proposal, said
the U.S. official, there was no
need for a decision now since the
2005400383 could operate